

March 16, 1976

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So then you don't even have to graduate from college, do you?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Not if you can pass the 2½ day, five-part exam.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But wait a minute. Let's take it a step at a time, if you don't mind, because accounting is based to some extent on logic so our discussion of it will proceed in logical steps if you don't mind because I don't want to be confused. Now we've talked about the high standards of being a CPA but you don't have to graduate from college to be a CPA, do you?

SENATOR GOODRICH: I'm sorry. There's too much talking. I can't hear you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Goodrich, it is not necessary, even though we're discussing the high standards of being a CPA, it is not necessary in fact to graduate from a university or a college to qualify for taking the exam, is it?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Not if you have sufficient work experience to offset it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But, Senator Goodrich,... OK, I'll tell you the answer to this one, you don't have to graduate from college. So we can knock out the education requirement. You do have to graduate from high school. Now let's talk about the exam that you mentioned. Is this a uniform exam administered all over the country and throughout the territories of the United States?

SENATOR GOODRICH: Yes, it is.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: OK, now where's the examination graded? Is it graded in the state where it's given or in New York?

SENATOR GOODRICH: No, I don't think it's New York. I don't know where it's graded, but it's graded by number as opposed to by name even. The name of the party taking the exam isn't even on the test.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: OK, that's insignificant at this point. Is it graded by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants?

SENATOR GOODRICH: I suppose. I don't really know.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Alright now you said it's by number and not by name, so these people would have no way of knowing the identity of the individual who takes the exam.

SENATOR GOODRICH: Right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Has a standard been established, do you think, by these CPA's in putting the material in their exam and administering it so that if a person is not capable of being a CPA he or she could not pass the examination?